UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.3/52/L.74
21 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-second session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda items 110 and 116

ELIMINATION OF RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999

Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the convening of a world conference on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/52/L.38

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 (a) and (d) of Part II of draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.38, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to convene a world conference on racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, not later than the year 2001;

(b) Decide also that the Commission on Human Rights will act as the preparatory committee for the world conference on racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that its deliberations should be open-ended, allowing for the full participation of all States Members of the United Nations, members of specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with established practice.

2. The above requests are related to programme 19: Human rights, subprogramme 1: Right to development, research and analysis, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (A/51/6/Rev.1). At the same time, the activities

would be carried out under the budget section to be established for the human rights programme in the biennium 2000-2001.

3. In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 (a) of Part II of the draft resolution, a world conference on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance would be convened not later than the year 2001. The world conference is envisaged to meet for five working days in Geneva.

4. Full conference services in all six languages would be required for three simultaneous meetings in the morning and afternoon, for a total of six meetings per day in respect of a plenary (which would meet for five working days) and a main and drafting committees (which would be expected to meet for four working days each).

5. In accordance with paragraph 2 (d), the preparatory process for the world conference would consist of a preparatory committee which would meet in Geneva immediately after the conclusion of the regular annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in 2000 and 2001, for a period of five working days each year; and a three-day pre-conference high-level consultation meeting to be convened in Geneva immediately before the opening of the world conference.

6. The preparatory committee would consist of a plenary scheduled to meet for five working days with full conference services in six languages. Full conference services with interpretation in six languages would also be required for the high-level consultation meeting which would take place in Geneva immediately before the opening of the world conference.

7. The implementation of the requests contained in draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.38 would require additional provisions for the preparation and substantive servicing of the conference, public information coverage and security, which would be determined in the course of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

8. The full cost of providing conference servicing for the world conference on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, to be held in 2001, and its preparatory process in 2000-2001, is tentatively estimated at $2,509,500. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243, the additional costs of convening the conference outside Geneva would be the responsibility of the host Government.

9. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/52/L.38, no additional appropriation would be required under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999.